Welfare Scheme for mine workers of Mukti Morcha

7660. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any welfare scheme for the mine workers of Madhya Pradesh has been prepared by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to implement Group Insurance Scheme and to bring them under Employees State Insurance Act;

(d) whether Government give compensation to mine workers who succumbed to injuries in mine accident; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of compensation provided during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Various welfare schemes are under operation under the Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund; Iron Ore Mines, Managanese Ore Mines, and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund; and Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund to extend housing, health, education, recreation and other facilities to workers working in these mines in all the States including Madhya Pradesh.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal at present to take up a group insurance scheme for these mine workers or to bring them under the ESI Act. However, for employment related injuries resulting in death/disablement, the mine workers are covered under the Workmens' Compensation Act, 1923. Under the Act, Compensation is paid by the employer. As the provision of the Workmens' Compensation Act are being administered by the respective State Government/UT Administration, the details of the compensation provided during the last three years are not available.

Social Safety of work force in current Reform Process

7661. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the current reform process has excluded social safety of workforce;

(b) whether it is also a fact that present measures cover only 8 per cent of the organized labour force;

(c) whether Government propose to bring rest of the labour force under the cover for increasing productivity and better results; and

(d) if so, steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) Government is committed to protecting the interest of labour, enhance their welfare and equip them in all respects to deal with the inevitability of technological change under the new economic policy. Government have established the National Renewal Fund as a social safety net for the workers affected by industrial restructuring. As per its guidelines funds will be made available from N.R.F. for payment of compensation to employees affected by restructuring or closure of industrial units, both in the public and private sector, retraining and redeployment schemes for the affected workers, and employment generation schemes both in the organised and unorganised sectors. However due to financial constraints NRF assistance is presently being made available as per the priorities fixed.

Memorandum submitted by Bandhuwa Mukti Morcha

7662. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bandhuwa Mukti Morcha submitted a